

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 240730Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2583

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, KU, IZ, IR

SUBJECT: IRANIAN AMBASSADOR'S VIEW ON IRAN/IRAQ SETTLEMENT

1. AT RECENT SOCIAL GATHERING EMBOFF SPOKE WITH IRAN'S AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT, DR. FEREYDOUN ZAND FARD, CONCERNING RECENT ALGIERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAQ AND IRAN. AMBASSADOR ZAND FARD INDICATED HE SKEPTICAL INITIALLY THAT IRAQIS WOULD CARRY OUT AGREEMENT IN GOOD FAITH. HE NOW BELIEVES THERE 50-50 CHANCE THEY WILL DO SO. WHEN EMBOFF EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT SUDDENNESS AGREEMENT, AMBASSADOR CLAIMED THAT FOR SOME TIME SCHOOL OF THOUGHT HAD EXISTED IN TERHAN THAT IRAQIS WERE NOT HOPELESSLY TIED TO SOVIET UNION AND RELAXATION OF TENSIONS MIGHT HELP MOVE THEM AWAY FROM CLOSE DEPENDENCE ON SOVIETS. HE SAID ALL INDICATIONS WERE THAT SOVIETS UNHAPPY WITH EVENTS, RECOGNIZING THREAT TO THEIR POSITION SETTLEMENT WOULD POSE.

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2. WHEN EMBOFF ASKED ABOUT IMPLICATIONS SETTLEMENT FOR KUWAIT'S BORDER DISPUTE WITH IRAQ, ZAND FARD SAID KUWAITIS HE HAD TALKED WITH WERE CONCERNED IRAQIS WOULD NOW TURN HEAT ON THEM. HE BELIEVED THIS MIGHT BE THE CASE. HE ALSO SUGGESTED IRAQ AND SAUDI ARABIA MIGHT BE MOVING TOWARDS SETTLEMENT SOME OF THEIR DIFFERENCES.

3. ZAND FARD QUERIED EMBOFF ABOUT LIKELIHOOD US WOULD SOON RESUME FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IRAQ. EMBOFF REPLIED HE HAD NO AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION ON SUBJECT. HOWEVER, IT APPEARED US WAS DOING AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF BUSINESS WITH IRAQ, WITHOUT POLITICS BEING A MAJOR FACTOR. IF TENSIONS EASED IN AREA IT POSSIBLE BOTH SIDES WOULD GRADUALLY MOVE TO RESUME FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. ZAND FARD INDICATED THAT IN PROPER CIRCUMSTANCES THIS WOULD BE GOOD FOR AREA.

4. COMMENT: ZAND FARD IS USUALLY OUTSPOKENLY ANTI-IRAQ. FACT HE IS WILLING TO GO HALF-WAY IN GIVING NEW AGREEMENT SOME CHANCE OF SUCCESS AND OF RECONGINIZING NEW IRAQI INITIATIVES IN MENDING ITS FENCES WITH OTHER GULF STATES, IS INDICATION HE PROBABLY HAS RECEIVED WORD FROM TERHAN THAT IRAQ CURRENTLY ISN'T ALL THAT BAD. HIS VIEWS ON IRAQI-KUWAITI BORDER GENERALLY REFLECT THE EMBASSY'S READING OF KUWAITI CONCERNS.
STOLTZFUS

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